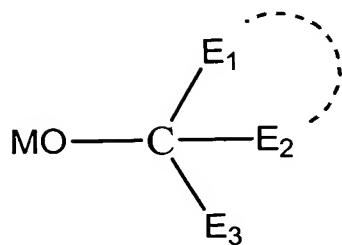


Claims:

1. An ammonium alkoxide having the formula



wherein

M is tetraalkylammonium;

E₁ and E₂ and the carbon to which they are attached comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic skeleton containing about 6 to 20 ring atoms, the hetero atoms being oxygen; and E₃ is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon.

2. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein E₃ is hydrogen.

3. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein M is tetramethylammonium.

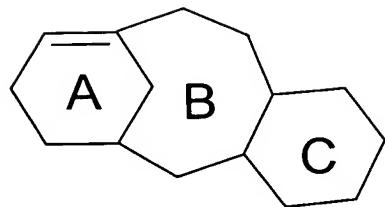
4. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein M is tetrabutylammonium.

5. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein E₃ is hydrogen and M is tetramethylammonium.

6. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein E₃ is hydrogen and M is tetrabutylammonium.

7. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein E₁ and E₂ and the carbon atom to which they are attached comprise the carbocyclic skeleton corresponding to rings A, B and C of

structure



8. The alkoxide of claim 1 wherein E_1 and E_2 and the carbon atom to which they are attached comprise the carbocyclic skeleton corresponding to rings A, B, C and the oxetane ring of structure

